

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /073 W

-----022643 311516Z /64

O 311435Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7376

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 1086

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH,UK, PDEV

SUBJ: GRAHAM-LOW MISSION

REF: STATE 132273

RHODESIAN REP HAWKINS TODAY, MAY 31 GAVE US AND THE BRITISH
THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REGARDING
THE GRAHAM-LOW MISSION:

QUOTE: 1. THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION
TO THE MESSAGE FROM THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS
CONCERNING THE DESIRABILITY OF WORKING TOWARDS ALL-PARTY
TALKS. THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS NOTED THAT AS PART OF
THE PRELIMINARY WORK NECESSARY TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF
SUCH TALKS, MR GRAHAM AND MR LOW, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
TWO GOVERNMENTS, WOULD BE READY TO VISIT SALISBURY AT THE END
OF MAY AND THEREAFTER HOLD THEMSELVES REGULARLY AVAILABLE FOR
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DISCUSSIONS IN RHODESIA.

2. WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE
TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT AT THE MEETINGS HELD WITH THE
ANGLO-AMERICAN DELEGATION IN SALISBURY ON 17TH APRIL, 1978, AND
CONFIRMED IN THE SUBSEQUENT MESSAGE OF 25TH APRIL, 1978,
ADDRESSED TO BOTH THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS, THE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AGREES IN PRINCIPLE THAT MR GRAHAM AND MR LOW MAY VISIT RHODESIA FOR THE PURPOSE OF MEETING THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT AND EXPLAINING THEIR PLANS TO IT. THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DOES, HOWEVER, WISH TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THIS DECISION IS MADE ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE BETWEEN MR GRAHAM AND MR LOW ON THE ONE HAND AND THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT ON THE OTHER. NO OFFICIAL COGNISANCE WILL BE TAKEN OF ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIVIDUAL PARTIES AND ANY VIEWS EXPRESSED IN SUCH DISCUSSIONS WILL NOT BE BINDING UPON THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT. IN ADDITION, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WISHES TO RECEIVE CLARIFICATION AS TO THE PROPOSED LENGTH OF STAY OF THE TWO REPRESENTATIVES.

3. THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WISHES TO REAFFIRM THAT NOTWITHSTANDING ITS DECISION TO AGREE TO THE VISIT ON THE BASIS SET OUT ABOVE, THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT REMAINS UNITED IN ITS DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT AND TO LEAD THE COUNTRY TO INDEPENDENCE THROUGH A GENERAL ELECTION UNDER UNIVERSAL ADULT SUFFRAGE BY 31ST DECEMBER, 1978. END QUOTE.

HAWKINS ALSO TOLD US (A) THERE IS NO OBJECTION TO THE BRITISH INSTALLING CYPHER EQUIPMENT IN MIRIMBA HOUSE FOR THE DURATION OF THE VISIT AND BRINGING IN PERSONNEL TO OPERATE IT, (B) USE OF PRIVATE AIRCRAFT BY GRAHAM AND LOW POSES NO PROBLEM, (C) GRAHAM AND LOW WOULD BE MEETING WITH DELEGATIONS DRAWN FROM THE PARTIES AND
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NOT THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITSELF, (D) ITS IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IF GRAHMA AND LOW ARRIVE ANYTIME FROM THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK, (E) THE QUESTION ON THE DURATION OF THE VISIT NEED NOT BE ANSWERED IMMEDIATELY, (F) GAYLARD WILL RETURN TO SALISBURY MONDAY, JUNE 5, AND SMITH ON SUNDAY, JUNE 11.
EDMONDSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAPET01086
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780227-0460
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978055/aaaaadht.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: aaf2b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 132273
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2664424
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GRAHAM-LOW MISSION
TAGS: PDEV, OTRA, PORG, RH, UK, (LOW, STEPHEN), (GRAHAM, JOHN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/aaf2b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014